

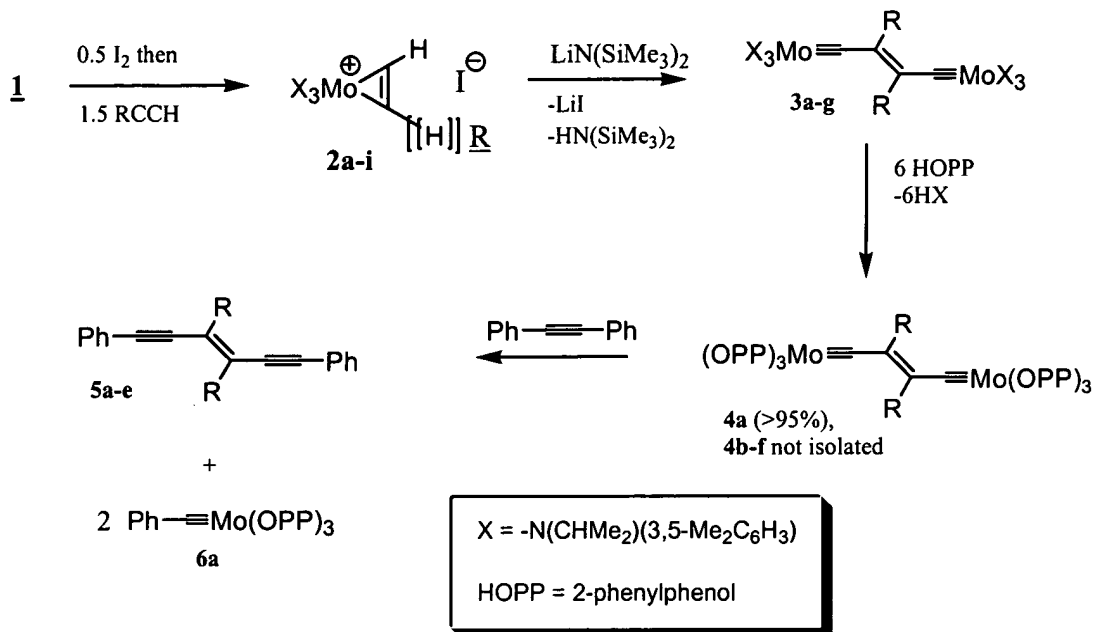
In the Specification:

1. On page 12, and continuing onto page 13, please amend the last paragraph as indicated below:

Transition metal alkylidyne complexes are recognized as useful catalysts for the alkyne metathesis reaction. Schrock, R. R. *Chem. Rev.* **2002**, *102*, 145, and references therein. Recently, various transition metal recipes have been devised that effect this important transformation without the benefit of a well-defined active catalyst; this is particularly so in exciting polymer synthesis applications and impressive ring-closing variants utilized in natural product synthesis. Brizius, G.; Bunz, U. H. F. *Org. Lett.* **2002**, *4*, 2829. (b) Bunz, U. H. F. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2001**, *34*, 998. (c) Ge, P.-H.; Fu, W.; Herrmann, W. A.; Herdtweck, E.; Campana, C.; Adams, R. D.; Bunz, U. H. F. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2000**, *39*, 3607; Fürstner, A.; Mathes, C.; Lehmann, C. W. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2001**, *7*, 5299. (b) Fürstner, A.; Mathes, C. *Org. Lett.* **2001**, *3*, 221. (c) Grela, K.; Ignatowska, J. *Org. Lett.* **2002**, *21*, 3747. On the other hand, despite the fact that structurally well-defined trialkoxy-molybdenum alkylidyne complexes are known to function as efficient and functional-group-tolerant catalysts for alkyne metathesis, they have not been widely adopted because of difficulties encountered in their synthesis. McCullough, L. C.; Schrock, R. R.; Dewan, J. C.; Murdzek, J. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1985**, *107*, 5987; Tsai, Y.-C.; Diaconescu, P. L.; Cummins, C. C. *Organometallics* **2000**, *19*, 5260. The present invention describes in one embodiment a convenient synthetic protocol for preparing such alkyne metathesis ~~eyatalysts~~ catalysts starting from $\text{Mo(H)(}\eta^2\text{-Me}_2\text{CNAr)(N}(i\text{-Pr)Ar)}_2$, **1**. Tsai, Y.-C.; Johnson, M. J. A.; Mindiola, D. J.; Cummins, C. C.; Klooster, W. T.; Koetzle, T. F. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1999**, *121*, 10426. This protocol can also be directed toward the synthesis of conjugated (*E*)- and (*Z*)-ene-diyne molecules of great importance in materials and biological chemistry owing respectively to their remarkable electronic and antibiotic properties. (a) Martin, R. E.; Gubler, U.; Cornil, J.; Balakina, M.; Boudon, C.; Bosshard, C.; Gisselbrecht, J.-P.; Diederich, F.; Günter, P.; Gross, M.; Brédas, J.-L. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2000**, *6*, 3622. (b) Chow, S.-Y.; Palmer, G. J.; Bowles, D. M.; Anthony, J. E. *Org. Lett.* **2000**, *2*, 961; (a) Nicolaou, K. C.; Dai, W.-M. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl* **1991**, *30*, 1387. (b) Danishefsky, S. J.; Shair, M. D. *J. Org. Chem.* **1996**, *61*, 16; (a) Nicolaou, K. C.; Ulven, T. M. T.; Baran, P. S.; Zhong, Y. L.; Sarabia, F. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, *124*, 5718. (b) Jones, G. B.; Wright, J. M.; Plourde, G. W., II; Hynd, G.; Huber, R. S.; Matthews, J. E. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2000**, *122*, 1937. (c) Shimizu, T.; Miyasaka, D.; Kamigata, N. *Org Lett.* **2000**, *2*, 1923. (d) Hayashi, M.; Saigo, K. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1997**, *38*,

6241. (e) Kosinski, C.; Hirsch, A.; Heinemann, F. W.; Hampel, F. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2001**, 3879; For a mechanistically distinct transition metal (Re, Mn) mediated synthesis of enediynes see: (a) Casey, C. P.; Kraft, S.; Powell, D. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, 124, 2584. (b) Casey, C. P.; Dzwiniel, T. L. INDR 371 presented at ACS Meeting, Boston, MA, Aug 2002.

2. On page 24, please amend Scheme 4 as indicated below:



Clean Version of Amendment to Scheme 4 in the Specification:

1. On page 24, please replace Scheme 4 with the following:

